

SECRET SERVICE CONTRIVERSY

President Lively it Up With Vigorous and Lengthy Reply to Those Who Attacked It

HEMENWAY CHIEF OFFENDER.

Calls His Report "Inaccurate and Misleading in Various Important Respects."

Washington, Feb. 21.—President Roosevelt today added another stirring chapter to the secret service controversy in a vigorous and lengthy reply to the attacks made on this branch of the government in a report made recently by Senator Hemenway of the senate committee on appropriations. Senator Hemenway, in this report, upholding the limitation in the size of the secret service, asserted that it never had been the intention of Congress to build up a "spy" system, and with evident reference to this part of the report, the president declared that if the limitation of the use of the secret service had been in force when the sensational land frauds were unearthed a few years ago, a senator, a representative and various other officials of wealth and political influence, who at that time were convicted, would all have escaped punishment. The president's letter is addressed to Acting Chairman Hale of the senate appropriations committee.

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

The president's letter, dated Feb. 19, follows: "I have seen the report presented by Senator Hemenway to the committee on appropriations. The report is inaccurate and misleading in various important respects, and I desire to make certain corrections in reference to statements which appear there and in the subsequent debate.

"Until last year the secret service, a small body of 60 or 70 men in the treasury department, under Chief Wilkie, was practically the only body of public servants engaged almost purely in criminal investigation. The secret service men were assigned at different times to different departments to investigate criminal offenses. They were thus assigned on different occasions for instance, to the state and navy departments; but above all to the interior department and to the department of justice. During the seven years of my administration they were instrumental in bringing to justice a great number of criminals.

INVALUABLE SERVICE.

"I append herewith the occasions on which they were sent to the department of justice during the year 1907, and the first six months of 1908. They rendered invaluable assistance in securing the conviction of many criminals of desperate character and of many other offenders of great wealth and of social and political prominence. In not one single instance during these seven years has it been shown that the action jeopardized any man who was not connected with illegal transactions. In not a single instance has it been shown that they took any but proper steps against a criminal. No man of good character and capacity, and who have rendered exceptional service to the public, and that Chief Wilkie himself, in a very trying and responsible position, has shown qualities of the highest character and has been one of the main standbys of the government. No other man in the government employ is so dreaded and hated by lawbreakers and those who especially desire to see his activities and those of the men under him restricted in every way.

CONGRESS HAMPERED JUSTICE.

"Congress last year forbade by law the use of the secret service men to take a step to capture and bring to justice, and thereby not only hampered justice in other departments, but deprived the secretary of the treasury, the official guardian of a billion and a half of the nation's actual money, of the most effective and efficient guard, that guardianship. Moreover, the Congress provided no substitute whatever for the secret service. In consequence the department of justice was obliged to develop as specifically as possible its corps of special detectives to take the place of the secret service agents, which it had previously used for the nucleus of this force and trained in each method. I call your special attention to the fact that if the department of justice had not taken this action, there would have been a complete failure to enforce the law against many types of criminals, and not only in the early months of the present fiscal year during the Morse prosecution in New York and in connection with certain important cases, serious inconvenience and anxiety were caused to the prosecuting officers by this action of Congress in depriving them of the aid of the experienced operatives of the secret service on whom they had been accustomed to rely. I call your attention to the further fact that the department of justice had never taken any steps to organize this force so long as it could get men detailed to it from the secret service. In other words, the action of the Congress in regard to the secret service would have caused gross miscarriage of justice had it not been in large part nullified by the prompt action of the department of justice in its own initiative and without any further legislation of any kind by the Congress. In providing a species of secret service within the department of justice itself.

THE SPY SYSTEM.

"Your committee, in its report, states that it has never been the intention of the Congress to build up a 'spy' system, and in the next sentence, however, advocates the building up of precisely this 'spy' system in the department of justice. Not only have I again and again requested that the secret service be placed under the department of justice, but the chief of the secret service has himself specifically requested on different occasions that the same course be followed, therefore, your committee has declared for the policy of the adoption of which I have urged, and all difficulties would be met by providing specifically and apply for

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carrying out that policy, Chief Wilkie should be transferred to the department of justice and put at the head of the force therewith organized.

"But in your report and the subsequent debate, direct and indirect attacks are made upon the secret service, with a persistent and a curious indifference to the fact that your committee recommends that a precisely similar secret service to the one attacked be now established in the department of justice, and be it observed that no limitation is proposed for this new secret service; so that the limitation is only imposed upon the secret service which has already shown its efficiency and has already been the object of terror to criminals. Senator Hemenway states that 'there are more than 2,000 men now in the secret service and inspection work of the government.' This is one of the cases in which special operatives of your office have been employed under the name of 'secret service agents.' The United States attorney takes occasion to make his report in connection with highly 'the very able service of the operative in charge, Mr. Lucien G. Wheeler, and his secret service agents.'

"The department is also in receipt of a letter from the secretary of the interior, dated the 22nd inst., expressing his appreciation of the splendid work done by the United States attorney, his special assistant and Mr. Wheeler, and that a telegram will be sent to Mr. Wheeler on the 21st inst., as follows:

"I congratulate you most heartily on the splendid work you have done in connection with the case of the late Senator Stephen P. Benson, which must give renewed confidence to all those who believe that the law must be obeyed.

NUMBER EMPLOYED.

"I submit to you herewith a substantially although not entirely accurate statement of the number of men employed in the secret service work during the year that has just passed, as compared with the years 1901-02. Owing to the very brief period which has been given to get the figures, it was impossible to get them with entire accuracy, but they are not out of the way more than a score or so in either direction. According to these figures 12,000 men of this type were employed seven years ago, and somewhat over 1,900 now; that is, instead of having tripled in number, as one of the statements made above, instead of having increased nearly 20 fold in accordance with the other statement, they have increased but a little over one-half, a little over 50 per cent. In view of this increase, considerably over half was in the number of men used in securing the punishment of violators of the internal revenue laws, a matter wholly outside of the work done by the gentlemen who have objected to the use of the secret service. The remaining increase is due to such causes as the natural growth of the postoffice, appointment of individuals to enforce the laws of the land, and the more rigorous enforcement of the safety appliance act, the suppression of the liquor traffic among the Indians, the protection of the public lands and the timber and the like.

"I call your special attention to the fact that the great majority of these men are not primarily or mainly, or indeed ordinarily engaged on secret service or criminal investigation or inspection work at all; I have employed these men merely because they were so employed by members of your committee and others in the course of the debate in the house of representatives. They are entirely misleading in so far as they give an impression that chief work of the men mentioned was of the character assigned to by Senator Hemenway and others in the statements made above and in the similar statements. As regards nineteen-twentieths of these men, the proportion of their time given to secret service work or criminal investigation is altogether insignificant, and the great majority of them are engaged in their ordinary duties.

THIRTY-FOLD EXAGGERATION.

"To speak of these men as having become an enormous army of 3,500 men engaged in secret service and similar work, is completely out of accord with the actual facts. The increase was 50 men, of whom but a score or two are habitually engaged in secret service. As for the amount expended, the statements in the debate in both houses are so exaggerated as to be a reference whatever to the actual figures. Thus it was stated that the department of justice was spent in criminal investigation. As a matter of fact, the attorney-general reports to me that the appropriation for the department of justice was \$1,750,000, or less than 1 per cent of the total. The statement in question was a 20-fold exaggeration. In the same it was stated that \$15,000,000 (or gentlemen say \$20,000,000) was expended for the secret service work, while the total of figures amounted to \$22,000,000 as money which could have been expended for such work. A table recently compiled covering all the departments, shows that the amount actually expended during the first six months of the present fiscal year in all work that can be any possibly connected with the secret service was a little less than \$750,000, an estimated total for the entire fiscal year of approximately \$1,600,000, which goes to show that the statements referred to were only from 5 to 17 per cent of what in fact.

WHERE HEMENWAY ERRED.

"Senator Hemenway quoted the secretary of the interior as stating that one secret service man was ever detailed to the interior department. This statement of Senator Hemenway is especially misleading. The secret service men were detailed to come under the department of justice, but for convenience in operation they were assigned to aid and assist in the department of justice. This has been set forth with the utmost clearness again and again in the reports of the interior department. As prosecutions had to be carried on by the department of justice, it was detailed that the secret service men should work with and under the department of justice officials. By turning to the list to which I have already alluded, you will see that in the year 1907 the department of justice, on Jan. 5, asked for one man in a land fraud case; that on Jan. 25 it asked for five men to be detailed for timber entry frauds; on Jan. 26, four additional men in secret land fraud investigations; on Feb. 27, three men; on March 4, two more men; on April 2, three more men; on May 25 and June 10, one additional man; on Aug. 2 and Aug. 10, one additional man; and on Sept. 10, one additional man. These were not assigned to the interior department, but they were used for the interior department cases under the department of justice. How such officers discharged their duties in a previous case of which

OLD MEN WHO SIT AMONG THE YOUNG

The United States Senate Has Few of the Veterans On Its Roll.

STEPHENSON'S GOOD MEMORY

He Never Forgets a Face, a Date, a Name, or Anything Else Worth Remembering.

Special Correspondence.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Nearly two years ago, when former Representative Stephen Stephenson succeeded Mr. Spooner as United States senator from Wisconsin, it was common talk that the latter would be entirely subsided to fill out the unexpired term. But the old lumberman likes it so much in the senate that he has been reaching out for a full term of his own, and the latest accounts were that he was going to succeed in his ambition unless the La Follette following could find a way to trip him up. Mr. Stephenson, who is a native of New Brunswick, is the oldest man now in the senate, for he will be 80 if he lives until the 18th of next June. Senator Villard of Illinois will not be 39 until Nov. 22, and Senator Teller of Colorado is about a year younger than Stephenson. Senator Frye of Maine will be 78 his next birthday, and Senators Platt and Depey of New York rank next in age, being 75 and 74 respectively. The election of so many young senators in recent years has greatly reduced the average in the upper branch.

SENATOR STEPHENSON'S MEMORY.

Senator Stephenson is noted up in his country for his remarkable memory. A prominent Wisconsin man journeying here this winter on this point said: "He was never known to make notes. During all of the time he spent in active work as a lumberman, which required the recollection of a great many details, he never took a memorandum. He never has carried a notebook and never has written down the name of a man in order to remember it. He rarely forgets a face, but his most remarkable faculty is that of remembering names. I venture to say that Senator Stephenson offhand can tell the date of every important event that has happened in the last century. The senator is justly proud, too, of his remarkable memory."

SENATORS ALSO GOVERNORS.

"The house decided the other day that Gov. Lilly of Connecticut should be dropped from its roll of members on the ground that he could not hold two offices at the same time. Some years ago the senate was not that rough on David Bennett Hill. On a certain 4th of March his only term in the senate commenced. When elected senator he was governor of New York. He held on to the governorship all that year to prevent the lieutenant governor from succeeding him at Albany, but drew his pay as senator just as long as he lived. And this was also true of Senator La Follette of Wisconsin. For a long time it looked as if Mr. La Follette possibly might refuse to be sworn in as senator if things did not go to suit him in his capacity of governor. No question in either case was raised in the senate. There was some outside talk, but it did not influence the senators.

PHILADELPHIA TO ENTERTAIN CONVENTION.

Indications are that Congress will soon pass the joint resolution authorizing the secretary of state to invite the Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses to hold in this country in 1911 its twelfth convention. Conventions are held every three years, the last one being at St. Petersburg. Philadelphia will doubtless have the honor of entertaining the convention, having been the first city to extend the invitation, and Representative Moore, who takes such a lively interest in such matters, has been pushing the resolution at Washington. This will not cost the national government any money, for the Philadelphiaian propose to foot all the bills for entertainment. However, when the international and the pan-American medical congresses, respectively, were held here Congress appropriated quite liberally toward the entertainment fund.

HEPBURN MUST MAKE GOOD CASE.

Colonel Pete Hepburn of Iowa is busy preparing his contest for the seat in the next house which will certainly be occupied at the start by his Democratic opponent. Some folk have a suspicion that his case will have to be a mighty strong one before the leaders will consent to turn the Democrat out.

HAVE FUN WITH SHERMAN.

Members of the house cannot help poking fun at Hon. James S. Sherman, soon to preside over the senate for four years, because he has served out his term as vice-president. Some even go so far to bring up the matter incidentally in the regular debates in the house. Mr. Sims of Tennessee, the other day, when talking on the resolution to permit the holding of the inauguration ball in the pension office building, declared that Sherman ought to have a chance to dance before he is buried in the chair of the presiding officer of the senate, even predicting that if he were not careful he might be walking on crutches before that job ends.

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SELECTIONS FOR TAFT'S CABINET

All the Places Filled Except That of Secretary of the Treasury.

FIVE OF THEM ARE LAWYERS.

Great Aim of His Administration Will Be to Place Constitutional Legal Restrictions on Corporate Abuses.

Philadelphia, Feb. 21.—

President-elect Taft arrived here this morning from Cincinnati and with Mrs. Taft, who came from New York to join him, is the guest of Dr. S. Weir Mitchell in his Walnut street home. Mrs. Taft attended services at the Unitarian church, and with Mr. Taft drove to Bryn Mawr, where they called on their daughter Helen, and returned with her in their automobile to dinner at the Mitchell residence. A conference took place between the president-elect and Frank H. Hitchcock, who came here at the request of Mr. Taft. Frank H. Hitchcock was also a visitor. Mr. Taft admits he is making headway in the selection of a secretary of the treasury, but maintains that the place is not yet filled. Franklin MacVeagh and Myron T. Herrick are two of the men under consideration. With this exception the Taft cabinet in complete and when officially promulgated shortly before his inauguration, will be found as follows:

Secretary of State—Philander C. Knox of Philadelphia.
Attorney-General—George W. Wick-ersham, New York.
Secretary of War—J. M. Dickinson of Tennessee.
Secretary of the Navy—George Von L. Meyer of Massachusetts.
Secretary of Commerce and Labor—Charles Nagel of Missouri.
Secretary of the Interior—R. A. Ballinger of Washington state.

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Postmaster-General—Frank H. Hitchcock of Massachusetts.

Secretary of Agriculture—James Wilson of Iowa.

It will be observed that in this list are five lawyers. It may be stated that this fact is not a mere coincidence, but is an accomplishment which has been carefully planned and striven for by the incoming president.

Constitutional legal restrictions on corporate abuses are the accomplishment which he will strive for. In assembling his legal cabinet, the president-elect has not lost sight of the necessity of obtaining men whose beliefs on the questions to be dealt with coincide with his own. Mr. Taft's position was clearly embodied in his inaugural address and this document is known to have received hearty adoption and complete approval by all of the men selected to be Mr. Taft's cabinet advisers.

J. M. Dickinson of Tennessee, who accepted the war portfolio at the hands of Mr. Taft in Cincinnati yesterday, will give up the position of solicitor for the Illinois Central railway and a salary of \$25,000 a year to become a cabinet minister. He is between 54 and 55 years of age, a native of Mississippi, served three months in the Confederate army as a boy, graduated from the University of Tennessee and finished his education in Germany. His grandfather was Phelix Grady, attorney general of the United States; his father a distinguished chancellor in Mississippi. Mr. Dickinson has always been a Democrat, although he is a personal friend of President Roosevelt and refused to vote for Dryan.

A DISCUSSION. "Blood Atonement and the Origin of Plural Marriage."

A pamphlet containing over a hundred pages, has just been issued. This brochure contains a discussion on the questions quoted, between Elder Joseph F. Smith, Jr. and Mr. Richard C. Evans, the latter gentleman being second counselor to the president of the "Reorganizing Church." The questions are entered into exhaustively by both sides, and a great deal of valuable information is given. Elder Joseph F. Smith, Jr., shows by historical data and incontrovertible deductions that the position of his opponent is untenable. Post paid to any address, 20c. DESERET NEWS BOOK STORE, 6 Main St.

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PATENTS

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We have associated with us at Washington, D. C., and we will have our attorneys make a thorough search of the records of the United States Patent Office, and advise you as to the security of your patent, the cost and the manner of proceeding.

All patents secured through our Bureau will be advertised for sale at our expense, and will thus be brought to the attention of the thousands of readers and materially assist the inventor in disposing of their patents.

If you have made an invention, send us a rough sketch and description, and we will have our attorneys make a thorough search of the records of the United States Patent Office, and advise you as to the security of your patent, the cost and the manner of proceeding.

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100 pieces fine white English long cloth, fine mellow finish, strictly free from dressing, 36 inches wide, value \$3.00. Special for Tuesday, limit 1 bolt to a customer..... 1.89

TUESDAY.
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At \$1.89 Each.
Extra large size white Crochet Bed Spreads, measure 82x83 inches and fine white Marcellus Bed Spreads, measure 78x83 inches, all choice patterns, value \$3.00. Special for Tuesday, limit 1 to a customer..... 1.89

TUESDAY.
\$2.25 Linen Table Cloths at \$1.29 Each

100 white linen Table Cloths, hemstitched and spoked, some with drawn work borders, 8-4 and 8-10 sizes, all new designs, value \$2.25. Special for Tuesday, limit 2 to a customer, at..... \$1.29

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200 Hemmed Bleached Bed Sheets—the Belait make—linen finished—2 1-2 and 2 1-4 yards wide—the double bed sizes—regular price 75c; Tuesday, limit 4 to a customer, at each..... 49c

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